

# Climate Change Services

*Elevating Excellence to the Next Level*



Climate change is the most critical global environmental issue we face today. And it's also a game changer.

## Consider the facts.

- The average commercial property owner can reduce energy costs by 75% with solar.<sup>1</sup>
- 87% of consumers would purchase a product based on a company's commitment to corporate social responsibility issues such as climate change.<sup>2</sup>
- 190 companies collectively saved \$4.2B through energy efficiency programs.<sup>3</sup>

In total, 22 states, 550 cities, and 900 companies with US operations have made climate commitments.<sup>4</sup> Have you?

At Apex, we can help you initiate, optimize, or re-energize your climate change program.

## Our Climate Change Services

- Climate Training: Board, Management, Workforce
- Climate Gap Assessment/Action Planning
- Topical Risk Assessments (Ex: Water)
- Climate Data Inventory
- Climate Scenario Assessment
- Sustainability Data Assurance (Ex: GHG Scope 1 Emissions Assurance)

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## Climate change is the #1 priority environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issue facing investors today.

And chances are, if you're reading this, it's a priority of yours as well. Maybe you're just getting started and you're a little overwhelmed with the ever-evolving expectations, standards, and guidelines. Perhaps you're already making significant strides and want to clearly and accurately report your progress. No matter where you are in the process, we can help.

### Sustainability Planning and Reporting

Taking a proactive approach to sustainability has a lasting impact. A robust sustainability program with accurate reporting can:

- Enhance your company reputation
- Strengthen brand loyalty
- Satisfy your stakeholders' expectations
- Engage your employees and attract recruits
- Improve your resource efficiency
- Drive cost savings
- Identify opportunities for improvement
- Reduce impacts to human health and the environment

#### But if you haven't launched your program, how do you begin?

First and foremost, strategy is key. It's not just about determining what you want to achieve. It's about how you are going to get there. Your organization is unique. Your people are unique and so are your goods or services. What works for one company, educational institution, agency, or municipality, won't necessarily work for yours. We partner with you to understand all facets of your business. And then we help

you strategize. We'll help you foster engagement; establish your baseline; set your vision; determine what sustainability initiatives are meaningful and material to your operations; assign achievable timing and metrics; select a reporting framework; and adopt the right method to collect, distill, and disseminate the data you collect. Most importantly, we know that your sustainability program, like your organization, must be fluid enough to adapt and evolve as you grow.

#### With greenwashing accusations in the press, do you find yourself second-guessing what to promote publicly?

If so, you're not alone. Tracking, disclosing, and communicating your results with transparency and authenticity is paramount. To validate the credibility of your data, we provide Sustainability Report Assurance. Based on your needs, we can provide basic assurance of accuracy or a more advanced assurance that aligns with stakeholder issues and closely examines your reporting in conjunction with your processes and procedures. We value our reputation as much as yours and only substantiate the substantive.

#### What sets Apex apart?

Our consultants have provided sustainability data analysis and reporting services for Fortune 500 companies nationwide. More importantly, perhaps, we pair our extensive, hands-on experience with in-depth knowledge of the latest sustainability issues and trends to ensure that your sustainability program is right for your organization.

We also think holistically to maximize your investment and fully integrate sustainability across your business. We break down silos that often occur when sustainability/corporate social responsibility falls to a single person or department. By effectively communicating your vision, you can gain greater corporate acceptance. Working together, we can help you ensure that each and every individual, regardless of their role in the company, understands and embraces your sustainability program. And, that in turn, will yield broader benefits throughout your organization.



## Energy Services

To avoid energy-related emissions, a two-pronged approach works best—reducing energy demand through optimization and efficiency and transitioning to renewable energy sources that emit less carbon. Sounds relatively easy, right? Not exactly. Factor in energy price uncertainty, secure energy supply, emerging climate change policies, energy market price volatility, sustainability delivery, and legislative requirements and it can get a little tricky.

We can help transform the complexity into savings. Our services include:

- Sustainable Energy Strategy Production
- Predictive Energy Demand Assessments
- Single and Multi-Site Energy Audits and Assessments
- Energy Monitoring and Targeting
- Energy Metering
- Energy Saving Opportunities Assessments
- Energy Data Collection and Verification Services

### What does a successful energy strategy entail?

Managing your energy strategically means integrating your people, processes, and technologies. At Apex, that's where we excel. We understand that your energy strategy starts with an executive-level commitment and broadens to impact all levels and functions within your organization. We'll help you formulate and articulate your vision, outline your governance approach, and align your energy goals with your business goals.

Your strategy signals your dedication to energy management to your employees, recruits, investors, customers, and other key stakeholders. We can help you use it to develop an energy plan that works seamlessly with your business, reduces your carbon footprint, and drives efficiencies.

### How beneficial are energy audits and energy efficiency assessments?

Auditing and assessing your energy usage and your business goals gives you a big picture view of your energy efficiency and operational improvement areas. There are a few ways we can help you do that. We can assess your facility's largest energy consuming services e.g. heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, IT equipment, and water systems. We can conduct comprehensive site/plant inspections and analyze your energy bills, Building Management Systems



(BMS) information, and data logging. And we can target low performing assets and those review against current ASHRAE and other compliance standards.

### How can an energy performance management program help my organization?

With it, you can identify cost reduction and conservation opportunities, increase efficiencies, and determine if your energy initiatives are working. Our experts use peak-demand analyses, sub-metering, monitoring and targeting, data collection analyses and presentation, and benefits realization reporting to optimize performance. With granular, asset-level insight into your energy consumption and a clear understanding of your energy plans and policies, we pinpoint underperforming assets, evaluate renewable energy sources, determine the best metering infrastructure, spot any utility anomalies, detail your progress, and ultimately help you make informed decisions to maximize your efficiency.

### What sets Apex apart?

With technical expertise in energy abstraction, fuel handling, generation, distribution, and end-user consumption, we go beyond traditional services to provide actionable insight and prioritized recommendations. We evaluate your payback period and include detailed follow-up actions to ensure your identified savings are achieved.

We're here to help you every step of the way through energy cost management, regulatory compliance, energy reduction, and performance monitoring best practice procedures.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Management

The largest GHG emitters within your organization are also often the greatest energy users—heat, electricity, and transportation.

Limit one and you limit the other. All while reaping the rewards of savings and compliance. Yet, a maze of complex requirements, not to mention the economic impacts of cap-and-trade legislation, has made measuring, verifying, and reducing GHG more challenging than ever. Fortunately, for organizations like yours, simplifying GHG guidance and translating reporting requirements into results is our specialty.

### How can we assist with your GHG issues?

Apex's team has been providing GHG reporting, verification, and reduction services for over 10 years: We can help you assess which data collection methods are best for your organization, interpret and apply reporting requirements, prepare your GHG monitoring plans, determine your GHG emissions, and develop an effective reduction program.

### What are the benefits of determining GHG emissions?

As the adage says, "you can't manage what you don't measure." Determining GHG emissions can help you:

- Track and monitor your GHG reduction results
- Achieve regulatory compliance
- Identify future GHG reduction initiatives
- Report your progress to your stakeholders
- Verify your GHG inventory prepared by you or your consultants.

### How do I determine if my facility needs to report GHG emissions to a state agency or the EPA?

The applicability of state and federal reporting requirements is primarily based on your type of business and the volume of your GHG emissions. We can help you estimate the GHG emissions based on the sources covered by each regulation and establish a path forward to accurately report your findings.



### What is the advantage of voluntarily reporting my GHG emissions?

The EPA concluded that businesses who participated in voluntary partnerships saved \$37B and reduced their carbon footprint by 433 million metric tons. That alone is a compelling stat but it's helpful in many other ways as well. Voluntary reporting can help you better manage your emissions and energy use, respond to requests from stakeholders, and prepare for future mandatory reporting.

### What sets Apex apart?

We understand that climate change challenges and solutions are not "one-size-fits-all." We work closely with you to understand your goals and apply our knowledge of GHG protocols and guidelines to design a customized emissions reduction strategy that works for you. For GHG inventories, we help you determine whether a regulatory or voluntary program is applicable, choose the most appropriate protocol, and assist with gathering the required data for your inventory. Our experts provide the assurance you need. We quickly identify and fill data gaps to provide a complete and accurate report of your GHG emissions with a traceable record, and if necessary, ensure your reports are verified by a qualified third-party or verify your emissions if you or a contractor prepare the inventory.

1 <https://www.inc.com/vikram-aggarwal/calculating-the-benefits-of-going-solar.html>

2 <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesnycouncil/2018/11/21/do-customers-really-care-about-your-environmental-impact/#2be46a4d240d>

3 <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/simple-truth-energy-efficiency-good-manufacturers-bottom-lines>

4 <https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/usa/>

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